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Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 6,

At this time of year, I would usually hold an information meeting regarding applications for Secondary School for entry in September 2021. Unfortunately, I am not able to hold such a meeting under current restrictions. I have outlined the information I would have shared below. This is all correct at the time of writing – if anything changes, I will let you know. There is a lot of information to take in and so if you have any questions, please do get in touch. I have tried to organise it as clearly as possible!

Kent Test

- Held on Thursday 15th October
- Children must already be registered for the test – they cannot take it if they are not
- If you are registered but no longer wish for your child to sit the test, please put this in writing to Mrs Law
- Format - 1 hour English and Maths paper (multiple choice), followed by a reasoning paper split in to timed section, totalling 1 hour (multiple choice). Following this there is a writing exercise
- Tests are sent to be marked (the writing exercise is not marked) and scores are age standardised and school receives results within 2-3 weeks
- Based on these results, Headteacher appeals can be raised if scores are close to required thresholds
- Headteacher appeals use class based evidence which is reviewed by a panel of primary and secondary headteachers. The writing exercise from test day is also considered at this stage. The panel makes a decision on whether the evidence presented demonstrates that a child is suitable for a grammar school place
- Thresholds for a grammar school decision in 2019 – a score of 110 in each test (English, Maths and Reasoning) AND an aggregate score of 330
- Results sent to parents – 26th November (tbc) – emailed from 4pm and available to view online from 5pm (also sent first class post)
- At this point, the result of the test is final

Secondary School Applications

- General information from Kent on the process can be found here: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places#tab-1>
- Start applications here – www.kent.gov.uk/ola - you will need to set up an account and enter your details etc.
- Application window is open now – deadline for applications is 2nd November
- Find out about schools now – most will be organising online and virtual tours etc.
- Find out about additional entry requirements for some schools (e.g. church affiliation)
- Applications made on-line
- Deadline is prior to Kent-Test results day...

‘One Childhood One Chance’

Chilton Primary School, Ramsgate Arts Primary School and Upton Junior School are operated by Viking Academy Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 09449979. The Registered Office is at Chilton Primary School, Chilton Lane, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 0LQ. Viking Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



Naming schools on the application form

- Due to the change of date for the Kent Test, this year parents can name up to 6 schools on the application form
- If you believe a grammar school is the best environment for your child, you must name a grammar school or schools as your top preference(s) and fill the other spaces with high schools
- If you do not receive a grammar decision from the Kent Test, the grammar school choices will be disregarded and ranking will go straight to high school choices
- Kent have asked me to make it clear that last year, demand for grammar school places in Thanet was high and so getting through the Kent Test will not always guarantee a place at a grammar school

How School Places are offered

- Schools apply their admission criteria to rank applicants
- Kent then offers a place by matching this ranking to school choices on your list
- If you do not rank highly enough for any of the schools on your list, Kent will allocate you a school place that is not on your list
- **This is why it is very important to use all of your choices**
- National offer day is 1st March – you will receive an email with a school offer after 4pm (and the offer will be sent by 1st class post)

What happens after 1st March?

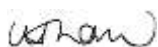
- Happy with the school offer? Accept the place by 15th March – schools will then be in touch
- Unhappy with the school offer? **Please still accept the place you have been given so that your child has a school to go to in September**
- Paperwork for appeals and waiting list requests will be sent by post with your school offer
- You can appeal for a school and also ask to be placed on a waiting list for a school
- Waiting list requests must be returned by 15th March
- If you wish to make an appeal for a school place, these must be lodged by 26th March

Making an appeal

- This should be based on which school you believe to be the most suitable environment for your child
- This is a parental appeal – school can support with evidence
- Appeal evidence is reviewed by a panel
- Under Covid restrictions this year, parents did not attend the appeal (in normal circumstances, parents did attend and presented evidence to the panel in person)
- Appeals are usually held in May / June with decisions made shortly afterwards (the time between March and June does mean it is a significant time to wait for a final decision)

As I have mentioned, please do get in touch with any questions!

Yours Sincerely



Mrs K Law

Head of School

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